

B/#9
10/31/03
AS



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: S DOCKET NO.: 57.0265USPCT
COVENEY ET AL. S

U.S. APPLICATION NO.: S GROUP ART UNIT: 1712
09/581,485 S

FILING DATE: 31 JUL. 2000 S EXAMINER: TUCKER, PHILIP
C. S

TITLE: STABILIZING CLAYEY S
FORMATIONS S

I hereby certify that this correspondence
is being deposited with the United States
Patent Service as first class mail in an
envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner
for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.
on January 22, 2003

Sherri Sitzmann
(name of person making deposit)
Sherri Sitzmann

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO
FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED 31 JULY 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 31, 2002
(the "Office Action"), please amend the above-identified
application as follows. Reconsideration of the
application is respectfully requested.

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 7 and 8.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (twice amended) A method of stabilizing a clayey geological formation surrounding a hydrocarbon well comprising the steps of:

RECEIVED
JAN 30 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

01/31/2003 ASPELLAN 00000001 190615 410.00 CH
01 FC:1252

B'